(d) what steps have been taken for the proper exploitation of coal resources in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) As on 1-1-89, the Geological Survey of India has estimated the coal reserves of India at 1,76,330.35 million tonnes consisting of coal seams of 0.5 metre and above in thickness and upto a depth of 1200 metres. The distribution of coal reserves, State-wise, is as under:—

State	Million tonnes
(a) Andhra Pradesh	10086.20
(b) Arunachal Pradesh	90 .23
(c) Assam	280.03
(d) Bihar	59132.24
(e) Madhya Pradesh	28814.61
(f) Maharashtra	5271.84
(g) Meghalaya	458.94
(h) Nagaland	12.05
(i) Orissa	41556.64
(j) Uttar Pradesh	1062.21
(k) West Bengal	29565.36
TOTAL	1,76,330.35

(d) The production of coal by the coal companies is based on the targets set out for them in the various Five Year Plans. The production target for 1989-90 at the end of the Seventh Plan period is 210 million tonnes which implies an annual growth rate of 7.4 percent or about 12 million tonnes each year, on an average during the 7th Plan period. For achieving the production growth envisaged in the Seventh Plan and during subsequent periods, Government/coal companies have sanctioned so far 138 projects for an investment of Rs. 3828 crores.

Non-working of Unit-2 of the Hirakud Hydro-Electric Project

588. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Unit-2 of the Hirakud Hydro-electric Project in Orissa is lying out of order since last one year;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which this unit has not been repaired so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken for its repair and by when it would be repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The unit-2 of Hirakud (Chiplima) HE Project is under planned outage with effect from 21-6-1988, for attending to repair of runner chamber.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Prospects of Oil and Gas in the Eastern Region

589. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern region of the country consisting of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Tripura has emerged as an area with brightest prospects for oil and gas amongst all the existing onshore regions and whether ONGC had decided to attach highest priority to this region;

(b) of so, what are the details of the prospects as compared to the other existing onshore regions in the country; and

(c) what are the areas where oil and gas have been struck in this region and what are the present and future targets of oil and gas production in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) The Eastern Region of the country including Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Tripura has a higher potential for hydrocarbons as compared to Bengal basin, Ganga Valley and other category III and IV basins. ONGC's activities in these areas are being carried out as per approved plan.

(c) Oil and gas have been discovered in the following areas of the Eastern region:—

Upper Assam, Dhansiri Valley, Naga Hills	Oil and Gas
Arunachal Pradesh	Oil & Gas
Cachar	Oil & Gas
Tripura	Gas

The target for production of crude oil/gas from the Eastern Region including Tripura for 1989-90 are as under:—

Oil	6.10 (MMt)
Gas	2.1 (Billion m^3)

Future projections regarding production will be known only after the 8th Five Year Plan is finalised.

Demand and production of coal

590. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for coal is rising more than the production and whether it is also a fact that Coal India Ltd. is incurring heavy losses; and

(b) if so, what are the details of coal production and demand, yearwise during the last three years and what are the reasons for losses and how Government propose to meet this situation and also what measures are being taken to produce more coal to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The demand for coal in the country is rising year after year. The coal production target for each year is also fixed after taking into account the consumerwise demand. The yearwise demand, offtake by the consumers and production during the last three years were as under: —

(in million tonnes)

Year	Raw coal		
	Demand estimated	Production	Actual offtake
1986-87	176.60	165.77	162.68
1987-88	192.05	179.75	174.75
1988-89	202.00	194.64	187.43

Since its inception, the Coal India Ltd. has been suffering losses every year except during the year 1981-82 when it earned a profit of Rs. 34.20 crores. Main reason for losses in Coal India Ltd., is that in the